

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

JUSTIN BRITT, §
Petitioner, §
§
v. § No. 3:17-cv-3450-C (BT)
§
LORIE DAVIS, *Director*, TDCJ, §
Respondent. §

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATION
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) and an order of the District Court, this case has been referred to the United States Magistrate Judge. The findings, conclusions, and recommendation of the Magistrate Judge follow:

I.

Petitioner filed this petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. On January 8, 2018, the Court sent Petitioner a notice of deficiency because he failed to pay the filing fee or file a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The notice of deficiency informed Petitioner that failure to cure the deficiency within 30 days could result in a recommendation that his petition be dismissed. More than 30 days have passed, and Petitioner has failed to cure the deficiency.

II.

Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure allows a court to dismiss an action *sua sponte* for failure to prosecute or for failure to comply with the

federal rules or any court order. *Larson v. Scott*, 157 F.3d 1030, 1031 (5th Cir. 1998). “This authority [under Rule 41(b)] flows from the court’s inherent power to control its docket and prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases.” *Boudwin v. Graystone Ins. Co., Ltd.*, 756 F.2d 399, 401 (5th Cir. 1985) (citing *Link v. Wabash, R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 82 S.Ct. 1386 (1962)). Here, Petitioner has failed to comply with the Court’s January 8, 2018, order; he has not paid the filing fee or filed a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Until Petitioner complies with the Court’s order and either pays the filing fee or files a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*, this litigation cannot proceed. Petitioner has thus failed to prosecute this action. Accordingly, his petition for writ of habeas corpus should be dismissed under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b).

III.

The Court recommends that the petition for writ of habeas corpus be dismissed without prejudice for want of prosecution under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b).

Signed May 30, 2018.



REBECCA RUTHERFORD
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE AND
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL/OBJECT**

A copy of this report and recommendation shall be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of this report and recommendation must file specific written objections within 14 days after being served with a copy. *See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); FED. R. CIV. P. 72(b).* In order to be specific, an objection must identify the specific finding or recommendation to which objection is made, state the basis for the objection, and specify the place in the magistrate judge's report and recommendation where the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Services Automobile Ass'n, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996).*